

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is presented to eliminate multiple dependencies in the claims. No new matter has been added. Early examination and favorable consideration of the above-identified application is earnestly solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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CORRECTIONS TO CLAIMS

Claim 3. (Amended) The method according claim 1 [or 2],
further comprising the steps of:

(8) calculating a myeloid cell count by deducting a lymphocyte count
and a monocyte count from the leukocytic cell count; and

(9) calculating the ratio of the erythroid cells to myeloid cells from the
obtained myeloid cell count and erythroid cell count.

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